Serial No. 09/975,317

REMARKS

The Official Action acknowledges receipt of the application, but indicates that the statutory basic filing fee is missing. Applicants submit herewith the filing fee and note the serial number and filing date are provided above and are given on the attached form along with the required \$130.00 surcharge.

In addition, Applicants have amended the specification to provide a brief description of the drawings as was done in the parent application. In addition, claims 1-16 have been canceled from the application and new claims 31-50 have been added to the application as was done in the parent application. Applicants most respectfully submit that all of the claims now present in the application are in full compliance with 35 USC 112 and are clearly patentable over the references of record for reasons of record as discussed in the parent application.

New claims 31 through 50 were subjected to restriction in the parent application but no constructive election should be considered to be made in the present application based on the prosecution in the parent application. Applicants do not believe that the claims now present in the application are directed to more than one patentably invention. Should a contrary determination be made by the Examiner, a restriction requirement should be issued so that Applicants may determine which claims to prosecute on the merits in the present application.

In view of the above amendments to the claims an early and favorable action on the merits is now in order and is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted, BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

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Marked-Up Version Showing Changes Made

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 5, after the second full paragraph, please insert the following heading and new paragraphs.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS:

Figure 1 shows non-selective IR GRE images obtained during the transit of 0.040 mmol/kg MnDPDP in a rat subjected to acute occlusion of the coronary artery (-10 min).

Figures 2 (A) - (D) illustrate changes in image intensity during transit of (A) 0.005, (B) 0.010, (C) 0.020, and (D) 0.040 mmol/kg MnDPDP in rats subjected to coronary artery occlusion (n = 7-8 per group).

Figure 2 (E) illustrates the effect of various doses of MnDPDP on normal myocardium.

Figure 3 illustrates changes in LVDP during normal perfusion with Krebs buffer in the presence (10-15 min) and absence (15-20 min) of MnDPDP.

Figures 4 (A) and 4 (B) show clearance of ΔR1 from blood and infarcted myocardium.

Figure 4 (C) shows the increase in ΔR1 in normal myocardium.

Figures 5 (A) and 5 (B) show plots of $\Delta R1$ ratio increase with time for normal myocardium.

Figure 6 shows the difference in R1 values between normal and reperfused infarcted myocardium.